

# **MEETING OF THE WELLNESS SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Pawtucket School District**

**School Administration Building, 2nd Floor Conference Room**

**286 Main Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860**

**November 16, 2011**

**Call to Order - Welcome**

**The Wellness Subcommittee Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.  
by Joanne**

**Bonollo, Committee Chair. Ms. Bonollo welcomed attending members  
Raymond Pita, Solange**

**Morrisette, Linda Mendonca, Miriam Plitt and Mike Araujo. Ronnie  
Cremonini was also  
present.**

**Public Participation - None.**

**Presentation and Discussion:**

**Mr. Michael Davolio, Director Pawtucket Planning Department,  
presented the Healthy**

**Places by Design project to the Committee. Discussion was held  
regarding the future bike path  
extension in Pawtucket.**

**Mr. Davolio distributed Healthy Places by Design meeting schedules,  
and in particular,**

**invited the Wellness Committee to attend the next "Complete Streets  
Workshop" on November**

**17th at the Visitor's Center from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Mr. Davolio  
expressed that the Planning**

**Department would be pleased to work with all committees of the Pawtucket School District.**

### **Community Reports:**

#### **Sodexo**

**Solange Morrisette reported on the partnering of Sodexo and Citadel Broadcasting to**

**interest high school students in making healthy nutritional choices such as utilizing the free and**

**reduced lunch program. Bringing available programs, educational information, etc., to the**

**student's level via the use of local radio stations such as HOT106 creates a winning situation for everyone.**

**Ms. Morrisette spoke of the Future Chefs program whereby Middle School students**

**compete in a cooking contest, which advances from a local to a national level.**

**Mr. Davolio suggested that the City Council visit schools to sample foods. Perhaps this**

**could be done at one of the Mayor's community meetings.**

**Discussion turned to ways the City of Pawtucket could become involved with the needs**

**of schools. Ms. Bonollo would like to think in terms of specifics such as contributing to Future**

**Chefs program, donating or repairing bike racks at specific schools, fixing playgrounds, etc.**

**Blackstone Valley Community Health - No Report**

**Neighborhood Health Plan RI - No Report**

**Kids First - No Report**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**The backpack program was discussed. Solange Morrisette looked into receiving grant**

**money from Sodexo, but an existing program needs to be in place prior to applying. A**

**coordinator for the program is needed; Joanne Bonollo asked Linda Mendonca to assist with**

**this. Mr. Davolio stated that the City may have a staff person to also help with the**

**coordination. He stated the city has 240 cases of canned corn, which could be donated to the**

**program. Sodexo would like to reinstate the program but at a loss how to do this due to the**

**intense labor required.**

**5-4-3-2-1 - The Committee further discussed the 5-4-3-2-1 program, poster and kick-off.**

**Ideally, Ms. Bonollo would like to have a grand kickoff at the beginning of the New Year. Mike**

**Araujo presented a poster template and will pursue printing without cost. If possible, Ms.**

**Bonollo would like to hang posters weekly in each school beginning the week of November 28**

with the number 5 and counting down to number 1 until the program kick-off. She asked if it was possible for Ronnie and Dianna, using clipart, to make these posters and send out to the schools, Ms. Morrisette volunteered to tie 5-4-3-2-1 into the Citadel promotion.

**RI Nutrition Requirements** - Ms. Wetherill again reported per USDA, every school district must have a wellness policy and a method of updating the public as well as measuring success. This is Federal law. Karin will email a copy to Joanne Bonollo. In addition, the state has a tool for self-evaluation.

**Wellness Policy** - Mike Araujo is hopeful to formulate smaller grouped committees, breakout in sessions and receive feedback. Mr. Araujo would like the policy to take the lead on social well-being. Recruiting additional Committee members via Facebook was discussed.

**Federal Wellness Requirements** - Guidelines need to be reviewed prior to developing the PSD Wellness policy.

## **NEWBUSINESS**

**mvCoke Rewards** - Committee reviewed handouts and discussed reward based programs, which oppose Wellness Committee beliefs. It was agreed

to bring this issue before the School Committee in an effort to eliminate reward programs as well as fundraisers (i.e., selling cookie dough). Mike Araujo stated this is a great example of why it's important to have policy in place - to back new ideas and enforce them. Committee asked Ronnie to inform Dianna Liss to place myCokerewards on a future School Committee agenda.

PE Survey - Solange will email Sodexo's student survey to the Committee for review.

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Committee Opinions/Open Meetings - Chairperson Bonollo stated if the Committee members express anything in publicly, it has to be considered a personal opinion. It will be a violation if expressed as a committee opinion rather than as an individual.

Cut Back the Sugar- It was suggested to print the green sugar poster on 11 x 17 paper and laminate. Post two per school. Linda Mendonca will call the Health Department to see if there are free posters available.

Mv Plate - Not discussed.

RINR Workgroup - Not discussed.

**Safe Routes - Linda Mendonca will contact Ronnie Sirota to inquire about the start of the grant cycle. Mr. Davolio added many grants require a local match. Linda Mendonca mentioned the grant being submitted by Mary Parella regarding teenage pregnancy, and perhaps the Wellness Committee would want to provide a letter of support.**

**Set Next Meeting Date - Next meeting date will be Wednesday, December 14, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Adjournment-The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.**